



# COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO

## COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

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GREGORY C. DEVEREAUX  
Chief Executive Officer

May 24, 2011

The Honorable Luis Alejo  
California State Assembly  
State Capitol  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: **AB 1250 (Alejo) – Support**

Dear Assemblyman Alejo:

The County of San Bernardino is pleased to support AB 1250, legislation providing redevelopment reform measures. Amendments to AB 1250 would impose far-reaching and significant redevelopment reforms to enhance accountability and effectiveness of redevelopment.

In our county, just like others throughout California, redevelopment serves as a vital tool to create jobs, revitalize older neighborhoods and to build affordable housing. For that reason, we oppose the Administration's proposal to completely eliminate redevelopment in California. Once eliminated, it will be impossible to recreate or reform redevelopment, leaving communities with no means of eradicating blight and supporting job-creation and neighborhood revitalization.

AB 1250 addresses the serious concerns that have been raised about redevelopment, and would stamp out abuses while preserving this critical tool for communities. Its provisions include the following:

- Definition of blight tightened to stop inappropriate uses of redevelopment and ensure it focuses on areas most in need.
- Limitations on the amount of a local jurisdiction's land area that can be included in project areas.
- School districts would retain all property taxes and tax increment in new or expanded redevelopment project areas.
- Strict, performance-based standards focused on statewide priorities and increased oversight by local citizens committees.

Instead of eliminating redevelopment agencies, this measure preserves the benefits of redevelopment to local and state economies. It would ensure that redevelopment is being used responsibly to maximize job-creation, renew rundown communities, clean up contaminated properties, finance basic infrastructure improvements, and build affordable housing. It would institute tough new reporting and accountability standards.

For these reasons, the County of San Bernardino supports AB 1250. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Josh Candelaria, Deputy Legislative Director, at (909) 387-4280.

Sincerely,

**JOSIE GONZALES**

Chair, San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors

*The mission of the government of the County of San Bernardino is to satisfy its customers by providing service that promotes the health, safety, well being, and quality of life of its residents according to the County Charter, general laws, and the will of the people it serves.*